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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. 25X1A

COUNTRY Rumania

DATE DISTR. 4 April 1951

SUBJECT The Rumanian Army (Organization, Promotions, Schools, and Discipline); Cominform Headquarters

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. 25X1X

1. The Organization of the Rumanian Army.

On 24 March 1950 the Ministry for Military Affairs superseded the Ministry of National Defense which had been established pursuant to Law No. 205 of 24 June 1947, and according to the provision of the Treaty of Peace.

2. Since the creation of the Cominform in 1947, and Tito's deviation, the Soviet Union began applying to the satellite states a new system with regard to their military organization. Since that year, the Rumanian Army became subjected to intensive military training. It also received equipment similar to that of the Soviet Army, and it was reorganized according to instructions issued by the Soviet General Staff.
3. Pursuant to Law No. 412 of 31 December 1948, the then existing Ministry of Defense was not obliged to publish in the Monitorul Oficial, bills concerning the reform of the Ministry, or changes in the personnel, or, in general, bills concerning the establishment and organization of the Rumanian Army.
4. Law No. 18 of 18 April 1948 establishes the same uniform for the officers and other ranks of the Rumanian Army as those worn by the Soviet Army, with the exception of the insignia worn by generals.
5. Pursuant to Law No. 44 of 31 May 1948, every male Rumanian citizen from 21 to 50 years of age is subject to mobilization and is bound by the military laws. Military service is for two years although it can be extended up to three years. Reservists up to 35 years of age and home guards up to 50 years of age are subject to call.
6. Promotion of Cadres.
 - a. The General Staff promotes officers only for distinguished war service, because they possess an exceptional political education, or have shown extraordinary zeal and competence in the so-called "Labor Field". They may also be promoted for having offered distinguished services for the organization of the Rumanian Army.
 - b. Officers of the above category need not necessarily be graduates of a military school, nor are they obliged to pass a prescribed test. They

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are promoted by Ministerial Decree, following the approval of the Committee of the Ministry for Military Affairs and the Supreme Political Directorate of the Rumanian Army.

- c. This innovation in the system of promotions of officers who are later placed in the General Staff, has been imposed by the Soviet General Staff. The latter does not favor and does not permit the appointment to the Rumanian General Staff of educated officers, able to draw up strategic plans or who are good tacticians and, for this reason are capable of acting on their own initiative. The same applies in the case of officers appointed as teachers in the military schools.
 - d. The Minister for Military Affairs appoints as Chief or deputy-Chief of the General Staff, one of the generals in command of a military unit, or one of the Inspectors of the Army without regard to any qualifications other than those mentioned above.
 - e. Promotions are made by the Ministry for Military Affairs in accordance with Law No. 69 of 15 March 1948. No qualifications are required; it is sufficient that the soldier evidences devotion to the Regime.
- 7. Law No. 1864 of 13 March 1948, imposed on the Rumanian Military Schools the teaching of the Russian language, the Soviet disciplinary system and Soviet training methods.
 - 8. Law No. 588 of 2 August 1948, provides for the calling out of officers to be trained as Political Commissars in special schools which are under the orders of the Secretary-General of the Educational Department of the Ministry for Military Affairs. He acts on orders issued by the Inspector-General of Education of the Supreme Army command.
 - 9. New special posts were created in the Army by No. 360 Ministerial Decree of 22 August 1948. To these posts the graduates of the above-mentioned schools were appointed after numerous dismissals from the Army had occurred as soon as Rumania was occupied by the Soviets. The "purge" in the Army reached its maximum intensity in 1948, when 17,000 career officers were dismissed.
 - 10. Law 453 of 23 December 1949 created the new rank in the Army of "Starschi Litinant" (Higher Lieutenant), similar to that existing in the Soviet Army. The Ministry for Military Affairs is authorized by the Government to appoint to this rank privates and non-commissioned officers, with no qualification other than that of inspiring complete confidence in the Regime.
 - 11. Discipline. The military code has been changed several times. On 20 May 1950, a new military code was issued imposing more severe punishments even for minor offenses. Offenses which were previously tried by the Civil Courts are now tried by military tribunals. The provisions of the new code are so vaguely worded that the judges may give them a variety of interpretations.
 - 12. Law No. 386 of 16 December 1948, supplemented by Law No. 125 of 26 March 1949, imposed on Rumania the institution of the Military Prosecutor even in time of peace.

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